

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing speech audio in a network connected client device comprising:

selecting a speech grammar for use in a speech recognition system in the network connected client device;

characterizing the selected speech grammar, wherein said characterization comprises determining based upon at least a size and a complexity of said selected grammar, and whether wherein a preferred processing location is specified in said selected speech grammar :

determining a processing power of said client device and of a remote speech server, a speed of a network connection between said client device and said speech server, and a real-time feedback requirement for is required in said speech recognition system; and,

based on the characterization of [[the]] said selected speech grammar, said determined network connection speed, [[and a]] said determined processing power of the network connected client device and said remote speech server, and said feedback requirements, determining electing whether to process the entire selected speech grammar in said preferred location or another location different from said preferred location before processing the speech audio, wherein said preferred location specifies locally in the network connected client device[[,]] or remotely in a the speech server in the network before processing the speech audio,

wherein if said preferred location specifies said speech server, said client device elects said client device if real-time feedback is required by said speech recognition system and a processing power of said client device is sufficient for said client device to process said selected speech grammar in real-time based on said size and said complexity of said selected grammar, and wherein if said preferred location specifies said client device, said client device elects said remote speech server if a latency in processing said selected speech grammar based on said network speed and said remote speech server processing power is sufficient to meet a feedback requirement of said speech recognition system whereby the entire selected grammar is processed locally if the selected grammar is at least one of a small size grammar and a grammar requiring real-time feedback.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with [[a]] said remote speech server; and,
querying said remote speech server for a speech grammar over said established communications session.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with [[a]] said remote speech server;
selecting a speech grammar stored in the network connected client device; and,
uploading [[the]] said selected speech grammar to [[the]] said remote speech server.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said selecting step further comprises:

registering said selected speech grammar in said speech recognition system.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

identifying in said selected speech grammar an embedded pre-determined characterization of said size and said complexity of said selected speech grammar.

7-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for processing speech audio in a network connected client device, said computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by said client device ~~a machine~~ for causing the client device ~~machine~~ to perform the steps of:

selecting a speech grammar for use in a speech recognition system in the network connected client device;

characterizing [[the]] said selected speech grammar, wherein said characterization comprises determining based upon at least a size and a complexity of said selected grammar and whether a preferred processing location is specified in said selected grammar ;

determining a processing power of said client device and of a remote speech server, a speed of a network connection between said client device and said speech server, and a real-time feedback requirement for is required in said speech recognition system; and,

based on the characterization of [[the]] said selected speech grammar, said determined network connection speed, [[and a]] said determined processing power of the network connected client device and the remote speech server, and said feedback requirements, determining electing whether to process the entire selected speech

grammar in said preferred location or another location different from said preferred location before processing the speech audio, wherein said preferred location specifies locally in the network connected client device[[.]] or remotely in a the speech server in the network before processing the speech audio,

wherein if said preferred location specifies said speech server, said client device elects said client device if real-time feedback is required by said speech recognition system and a processing power of said client device is sufficient for said client device to process said selected grammar in real-time based on said size and said complexity of said selected grammar, and wherein if said preferred location specifies said client device, said client device elects said remote speech server if a latency in processing said selected speech grammar based on said network speed and said remote speech server processing power is sufficient to meet a feedback requirement of said speech recognition system whereby the entire selected grammar is processed locally if the selected grammar is at least one of a small size grammar and a grammar requiring real-time feedback.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 14, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with [[a]] said remote speech server; and,
querying said remote speech server for a speech grammar over said established communications session.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 14, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with [[a]] said remote speech server;
selecting a speech grammar stored in the network connected client device; and,
uploading the selected speech grammar to [[the]] said remote speech server.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 15, wherein said selecting step further comprises:

registering said selected speech grammar in said speech recognition system.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 15, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

identifying in said selected speech grammar an embedded pre-determined characterization of said size and said complexity of said selected speech grammar.

20-25. (Cancelled).

26. (New) A system for processing speech audio comprising:

a speech processing server; and

a client device for operating a speech recognition system, wherein said client device is communicatively linked to said speech server using a network connection, wherein said client device is operable to:

select a speech grammar for use in the speech recognition system,

characterize the selected speech grammar by determining a size and a complexity of said selected grammar and a preferred processing location is specified in said selected grammar;

determine a processing power of said client device and of said speech processing server, a speed of said network connection, and a feedback requirement for said speech recognition system, and

based on the characterization of the selected speech grammar, said determined network connection speed, said determined processing power of the client device and the

remote speech server, and said feedback requirements, elect whether to process the entire selected speech grammar in said preferred location or another location different from said preferred location before processing the speech audio, wherein said preferred location specifies the client device or the speech processing server,

wherein if said preferred location specifies said speech server, said client device elects said client device if real-time feedback is required by said speech recognition system and a processing power of said client device is sufficient for said client device to process said selected grammar in real-time based on said size and said complexity of said selected grammar, and wherein if said preferred location specifies said client device, said client device elects said remote speech server if a latency in processing said selected speech grammar based on said network speed and said speech server processing power is sufficient to meet a feedback requirement of said speech recognition system.

27. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein said speech processing server further comprises a mass storage element for storing a plurality of grammars, and wherein said client device is further operable to:

establish a communications session with said speech processing server; and,
query said speech processing server for a speech grammar over said established communications session.

28. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein said client device server further comprises a mass storage element for storing said selected grammar, and wherein said client device is further operable to:

establish a communications session with said speech processing server, and
upload the selected speech grammar to said speech processing server.

29. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said client device is further operable to:
register said selected speech grammar in said speech recognition system.
30. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said client device is further operable to
characterize said size and said complexity of said selected speech by extracting from said
selected speech grammar an embedded pre-determined characterization of said size and
complexity.